

Message Text

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46

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 EUR-25 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 PC-04 AGR-20 INT-08 AID-20

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 CU-04 NIC-01 RSR-01 /221 W

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R 091600 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1583

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS KINGSTON 1112

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT JM

SUBJ: THE THRONE SPEECH

1. FOLLOWING THE CEREMONIAL OPENING OF THE NEW SESSION OF PARLIAMENT ON APR 15, THE ACTING GOVERNOR GENERAL, SIR HERBERT DUFFUS, DELIVERED THE ANNUAL THRONE SPEECH ON GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND GOALS FOR 1973-74. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SPEECH FOLLOW.

2. THE PRINCIPAL THEME OF THE SPEECH WAS " SELF- HELP ." WHILE THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED THE NECESSITY TO IMPORT FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY AND SKILLS, EVERY EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO JAMAICANIZE. THE GOVERNOR GENERAL SAID THAT A PETRO- CHEMICAL PROJECT WOULD GET UNDERWAY WITHIN THE NEXT YEAR. A COMPETITIVE EDGE HAD BEEN GIVEN TO LOCAL MANUFACTURERS BY RECENT FISCAL AND MONETARY POLICIES WHICH SHOULD STIMULATE THEM AND HELP SOLVE THE UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM. HE RESTATED THE GOVERNMENT'S ADHERENCE TO THE PHILOSOPHY OF A MIXED ECONOMY AND SAID THAT THE PLANNING MECHANISM WOULD BE RESTRUCTURED TO PROVIDE FOR CLOSER INTER- MINISTERIAL

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COORDINATION. HE ADDED THAT JAMAICA WOULD XOON BE ADOPTING THE METRIC SYSTEM, IN KEEPING WITH THE WORLD- WIDE TREND. ON BAUXITE HE SAID THAT JAMAICA WOULD BE CONSULTING WITH OTHER PRODUCERS TO ARRIVE AT JOINT MARKETING POLICY.

3. THE GOVERNOR GENERAL SAID THAT AGRICULTURE WAS THE KEY TO JAMAICAN PROGRESS. HE PROMISED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ASSURE THAT UNDER- UTILIZED LAND WOULD BE BROUGHT INTO PRODUCTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT WOULD BE GIVEN TO FARMERS TO PRODUCE MORE. A STUDY OF THE WHOLE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR WILL BE INITIATED AND A MASTER PLAN FOR THE REFORM AND MODERNIZATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR WILL EMERGE. THE GOVERNMENT IS CONVINCED THAT THE SUGAR INDUSTRY WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE FUTURE. TO THAT END, NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOW IN PROGRESS AIMED AT A RE- STRUCTURING UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF A CENTRALISED ORGANIZATION WITH GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION.

4. TO INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE BUREAUCRACY, THE GOVERNMENT WILL ESTABLISH A CIVIL SERVICE MINISTRY WHICH WILL HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE RECRUITMENT AND DIRECTION OF ALL GOVERNMENT MANPOWER RESOURCES. ALL CIVIL SERVICE POSTS ARE TO BE RECLASSIFIED ON SCIENTIFIC LINES AND A NEW PAY PLAN WILL BE INTRODUCED.

5. THE GOVERNOR GENERAL SAID THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WOULD CONTINUE TO BE EXPANDED, WITH NEW EMBASSIES IN TOKYO AND HAVANA OPENED WITHIN THE YEAR. THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO DIVERSIFY JAMAICA'S MARKETS AND SOURCES OF RAW MATERIALS.

6. THE SPEECH ALSO TOUCHED ON THE LITERACY PROGRAM, YOUTH, CRIME, ETC.

7. COMMENT: THERE IS REALLY NOTHING NEW IN THE OUTLINE OF CHALLENGES. THE " MIXED ECONOMY ," SUGAR INDUSTRY AND BAUXITE PROGRAMS MAY REVEAL SOME NEW DIRECTIONS IN THINKING. AGRICULTURAL POLICIES CONTAIN SOME OF THE PNP'S SOCIAL OBJECTIVES.
ROBERTS

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